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What is claimed is:

 A timing error detection circuit for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle included in a signal, comprising:

a sampling circuit for sampling said signal at a frequency equal to or more than double of a symbol rate;

an amplitude detection circuit for detecting
an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal; and
a detection circuit for detecting said timing
error based on difference of said detected plurality of
amplitudes.

- A timing error detection circuit as set forth in claim 1, wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
- 3. A timing error detection circuit for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle T included in a signal, comprising:

a sampling circuit for sampling said signal at a frequency equal to four times of a symbol rate;

an amplitude detection circuit for detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal; and a detection circuit for detecting a direction

and amount of said timing error based on the large or small relationship and the difference of said detected amplitude at time "T/4" and the detected amplitude at time "3T/4" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T".

- 4. A timing error detection circuit as set forth in claim 3, wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
- 5. A timing error detection circuit for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle T included in a signal, comprising:

a sampling circuit for sampling at a frequency equal to double of a symbol rate;

an interpolation circuit for generating data at time "T/4" by using sampled data at time "0" and "T/2", and generating data at time "3T/4" by using said sampled data at time "T/2" and data on time "T" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T";

an amplitude detection circuit for detecting an amplitude of said signal at the position from data at said time "T/4" and time "3T/4"; and

a detection circuit for detecting a direction and amount of said timing error based on the large or small relationship and the difference of the amplitude at

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said time "T/4" and the amplitude at said time "3T/4".

- 6. A timing error detection circuit as set forth in claim 5, wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
  - A demodulation circuit, comprising:

a symbol timing reproduction circuit for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle included in a signal and reproducing a symbol timing of said signal based on the detected timing error;

a carrier reproduction circuit for performing carrier reproduction of the signal wherein said symbol timing is reproduced; and

a symbol decode circuit for decoding said symbol included in said carrier reproduced signal;

and wherein:

said symbol timing reproduction circuit
comprises:

a sampling circuit for sampling said signal at a frequency equal to or more than double of a symbol rate or more;

an amplitude detection circuit for detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal;

a detection circuit for detecting said timing error based on difference of said detected plurality of

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## amplitudes; and

an interpolation circuit for reproducing the symbol timing by performing interpolation processing on said signal based on said detected timing error.

- A demodulation circuit as set forth in claim
   , wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
  - 9. A demodulation circuit, comprising:

a symbol timing reproduction circuit for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle included in a signal and reproducing a symbol timing of said signal based on the detected timing error;

a carrier reproduction circuit for performing carrier reproduction of the signal wherein said symbol timing is reproduced; and

a symbol decode circuit for decoding said symbol included in said carrier reproduced signal:

and wherein:

said symbol timing reproduction circuit comprises:

a sampling circuit for sampling said signal at a frequency equal to four times of a symbol rate;

an amplitude detection circuit for detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal;

a detection circuit for detecting a direction

and amount of said timing error based on sizes and difference of said detected amplitude at time "T/4" and the detected amplitude at time "3T/4" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T"; and

an interpolation circuit for reproducing the symbol timing by performing interpolation processing on said signal based on said detected timing error.

- A demodulation circuit as set forth in claim
   , wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
  - 11. A demodulation circuit, comprising:

a symbol timing reproduction circuit for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle included in a signal and reproducing a symbol a symbol timing of said signal based on the detected timing error;

a carrier reproduction circuit for performing carrier reproduction of the signal wherein said symbol timing was reproduced; and

a symbol decode circuit for decoding said symbol included in said carrier reproduced signal;

and wherein:

said symbol timing reproduction circuit comprises:

a sampling circuit for sampling said signal at a frequency equal to double of a symbol rate;

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a first interpolation circuit for generating data at time "T/4" by using said sampled data at time "0" and "T/2", and generating data at time "3T/4" by using said sampled data at time "T/2" and data at time "T" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T";

an amplitude detection circuit for detecting an amplitude of said signal at the position from data on said time "T/4" and data at said time "3T/4";

a detection circuit for detecting a direction and amount of said timing error based on the large or small relationship and the difference of an amplitude at said time "T/4" and an amplitude at said time "3T/4"; and

a second interpolation circuit for reproducing a symbol timing by performing interpolation processing on said signal based on said detected timing error.

- A demodulation circuit as set forth in claim
   wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated
   signal.
- 13. A timing error detection method for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle included in a signal, comprising the steps of:

sampling said signal at a frequency equal to or more than double of a symbol rate;

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detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal; and

detecting said timing error based on difference of said detected plurality of amplitudes.

- 14. A timing error detection method as set forth in claim 13, wherein said signal is a signal subjected to phase shift modulation.
- 15. A timing error detection method for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle T included in a signal, including the steps of:

sampling said signal at a frequency of four times a symbol rate;

detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal; and

detecting a direction and size of said timing error based on sizes and difference of said detected amplitude at time "T/4" and the detected amplitude at time "3T/4" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T".

- 16. A timing error detection method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
- 17. A timing error detection method for detecting a timing error of symbols arranged at a predetermined

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symbol cycle T included in a signal, including the steps

sampling at a frequency equal to double of a symbol rate;

generating data at time "T/4" by using said sampled data at time "0" and data at time "T/2" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T";

generating data at time "3T/4" by using said sampled data at time "T/2" and data on time "T";

detecting an amplitude of said signal at the position from data at said time "T/4" and time "3T/4"; and

detecting a direction and size of said timing error based on the large or small relationship and the difference of the amplitude at said time "T/4" and the amplitude at said time "3T/4".

- 18. A timing error detection method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said signal is a signal subjected to phase shift modulation.
- 19. A modulation method including the steps of: sampling said signal at a frequency equal to double of twice a symbol rate;

detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal;

detecting said timing error based on

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difference of said detected plurality of amplitudes;

reproducing a symbol timing by performing interpolation processing on said signal based on the detected timing error;

performing carrier reproduction of the signal wherein said symbol timing is reproduced; and

decoding said symbol included in said carrier reproduced signal.

- 20. A demodulation method as set forth in claim.
  19, wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
- 21. A demodulation method, including the steps of:

sampling said signal including symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle at a frequency equal to four times of a symbol rate;

detecting an amplitude at said sampled position in said signal;

detecting a direction and size of said timing error based on the large or small relationship and the difference of said detected amplitude at time "T/4" and said detected amplitude at time "3T/4" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T";

reproducing a symbol timing by performing interpolation processing on said signal based on said

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detected timing error;

performing carrier reproduction of the signal wherein said symbol timing is reproduced; and

decoding said symbol included in said carrier reproduced signal.

- 22. A demodulation method as set forth in claim 21, wherein said signal is a phase shift modulated signal.
- 23. A demodulation method including the steps of: sampling a signal including symbols arranged at a predetermined symbol cycle at a frequency equal to double of a symbol rate;

generating data at time "T/4" by using said sampled data at time "0" and data at time "T/2" when assuming a symbol appears at times "0" and "T";

generating data at time "3T/4" by using said sampled data at time "T'/2" and data at time "T'';

detecting an amplitude of said signal at the position from data at said time  $^{\rm w}T/4^{\rm m}$  and data at time  $^{\rm w}3T/4^{\rm m}$ ; and

detecting a direction and amount of said timing error based on the large and small relationship and difference of the amplitude of said time "T/4" and the amplitude at said time "3T/4";

reproducing the symbol timing by performing

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interpolation processing on said signal based on said detected timing error;

performing carrier reproduction of the signal wherein said symbol timing is reproduced; and

decoding said symbol included in said carrier reproduced signal.

24. A demodulation method as set forth in claim 23, wherein said signal is a signal subjected to phase shift modulation.